

## EXPLORATION TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

### Utah Coal Regulatory Program

---

June 15, 2009

TO: Internal File

THRU: Stephen J. Demczak, Reclamation Specialist, Team Lead *SJD mjs SJS*

RE: Notice of Intent to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration, Canyon Fuel Company, Dugout Canyon Mine, C/007/039, Task ID #3301, Outgoing File

#### SUMMARY:

Ark Land Company has submitted a Notice of Intent to conduct Minor Coal Exploration at Dugout Canyon mine. The applicant plans to drill one exploration drill hole in 2009. The drill core will be obtained to determine coal seam thickness and associated strata. The applicant will use rubber tire drilling equipment for the minor exploration project. The coal recovery will be less than 250 tons of coal.

The surface landowner is the Canyon Fuel Company and the coal ownership is School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (lease #ML-42648). The Division will need has received concurrence from School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration with this proposed notice of intent to conduct minor coal exploration on coal lease ML- 42648.

#### EXPLORATION TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

## COAL EXPLORATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-200.

## SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.1; 30 CFR 772.10; 30 CFR 772.11; R645-100-400; R645-200-100; R645-200-200; R645-201-100.

---

**EXPLORATION TECHNICAL MEMO**

---

**Analysis:**

Ark Land Company has proposed to conduct minor exploration by drilling one drill hole on Lease ML-42648 in the year 2009.

The Applicant has committed to comply with the requirements of R645-200 through R645-203.

This minor coal exploration will be conducted on Utah State Coal Lease ML-42648 and the Canyon Fuel Company is the surface landowner; therefore, 43 CFR Part 3480-3487 does not apply.

**Findings:**

The Applicant has met the minimum requirements of this section.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT MINOR COAL EXPLORATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.10; 30 CFR 772.11; R645-100-412; R645-201-200.

**Analysis:**

Coal Rule R645-201-221 requires the applicant to give name, address, and telephone number of the applicant's representatives, who will be present at and responsible for conducting the exploration operations. This information has been submitted in the Notice of Intent, Page 3.

R645-100-400, R645-200-100, R645-200-200, and R645-201-100; Ark Land Company has given a Notice of Intention to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration with a narrative and maps describing the exploration area and indicating where the exploration will occur. This information is on Page 4 and 6 of the Letter of Intent.

The Applicant will use rubber tire equipment on existing roads to gain access to the drill site.

The minor exploration project is scheduled to start on July 2009 and be completed by October 31, 2009.

**Findings:**

The Applicant has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## **COMPLIANCE DUTIES**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202.

The Applicant stated to have a copy of the Notice of Intent to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration for review by an authorized representative of the Division upon request.

### **Findings:**

The Applicant has met the minimum requirements of this section in the R645 Coal Rules.

## **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-100.

### **Analysis:**

#### **Roads**

The Applicant will access the site by using County roads in Clark Valley or an alternative route using County and Dugout mine road. No new road construction will be necessary. There is a possibility of grading and minor repair of the road.

### **Findings:**

The applicant has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## **RECLAMATION STANDARDS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-200.

### **Analysis:**

#### **Approximate original contour**

The Applicant has stated the drill pad will be reclaimed to approximate original contour.

#### **Facilities and Equipment**

The applicant has stated that water lines and all other equipment will be removed once exploration is completed.

---

EXPLORATION TECHNICAL MEMO

---

**Findings:**

The applicant has met the minimum requirement in this section.

**PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.15;R645-203.

**Analysis:**

The Applicant has stated to keep coal seam thickness and coal quality kept confidential.

**Findings:**

The applicant has met the minimum requirements of this section.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is my recommendation that the Division should approve the Minor Exploration Letter of Intent. The applicant has met the minimum requirements.